--- 200 Cigars - BLUE - "Series of 1883" - 483 x 22 mm ---

The catalogue should list the blue 200 cigar "Series of 1883" strips as follows:

***--- lithographed* - with the 25 mm "Ottawa" imprint? ---**

RG-355(L)† - 200 cigars, blue, perf 12, with 4 mm. red control numbering - **WANTED!**

***--- recess printed* by hand press - with the 25 mm "Ottawa" imprint ---**

RG-356 - 200 cigars, blue, perf 12, with 4 mm. red control numbering
RG-357 - 200 cigars, blue, coarse roulette, with 4 mm. red control numbering

3rd BABN Contract (1878-1886)	John McKay records 10,000 *lithographed* copies of "200 Blue Cigars" were delivered.
4th BABN Contract (1886-1892)	John McKay records 3,6000 *lithographed* and 5,750 *recess printed* by hand press copies of "200 Blue Cigars" were delivered.
5th BABN Contract (1892-1897)	John McKay records 10,000 copies of "200 Blue Cigars", *recess printed* by hand press, were delivered.

3rd BABN Contract	10,000 lithographed	**000001** to **010000** - **RG-355(L)**
4th BABN Contract	5,750 recess (hand press)	**010001** to **015750** - **RG-356/357**
4th BABN Contract	3,600 lithographed	**015751** to **019350** - **RG-335(L)**
5th BABN Contract	10,000 recess (hand press)	**019351** to **029350** - **RG-356/357**
	29,350	

It seems odd that the blue perforated strips of **RG-355(L)**, reported by John McKay as *lithographed* in Montreal under the **3rd BABN Contract** (1878-1886) would carry the 25 mm. "Ottawa only" imprint, since the Ottawa plant was closed in 1874. Perhaps, when and if a copy surfaces, the imprint will read "Montreal & Ottawa".

The collection ***does not contain*** a copy of **RG-355(L)** - the *lithographed* strip from the **3rd** and **4th BABN Contracts**.

--- 200 Cigars - BLUE - 438 x 22 mm. - "Series of 1883" - 4th BABN Contract (1886-1892) ---

--- *recess printed* by hand press - with 4 mm red controls ---

--- RG-356 - perf 12 - with the 25 mm. “Ottawa” imprint - scanned at 35% scale ---

★**RG-356 CP** - 200 cigars, blue, perf 12, on vertical mesh wove, with 4 mm. control **004929**,
stamped **CANCELLED** in 3 mm. Gothic letters - with the 25 mm. “Ottawa” imprint - delivered under the 4th BABN Contract

★**RG-356** - 200 cigars, blue, perf 12, on horizontal mesh wove, with 4 mm. control **005457**,
with the 25 mm. “Ottawa” imprint

004910★	RG-356	200 cigars, blue, perf 12, on vertical mesh wove, with 4 mm. red controls
004918	RG-356 CP	200 cigars, blue, perf 12, on vertical mesh wove, with 4 mm. red controls
004929★	RG-356 CP	200 cigars, blue, perf 12, on vertical mesh wove, with 4 mm. red controls
005456	RG-356	200 cigars, blue, perf 12, on horizontal mesh wove, with 4 mm. red controls
005457	RG-356	200 cigars, blue, perf 12, on horizontal mesh wove, with 4 mm. red controls

I am ambivalent about the indistinct mesh on these strips, at times I seem to see a horizontal and at other times a vertical mesh.

--- RG-357 - *coarse roulette* - with the 25 mm. “Ottawa imprint - scanned at 35% scale ---

★**RG-357** - 200 cigars, blue, coarse roulette, *recess printed* by hand press on a definite vertical mesh wove,
with 4 mm. control **015152**, with a 25 mm “Ottawa” imprint - delivered under the 4th BABN Contract

015004	RG-357	200 cigars, blue, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove
015152★	RG-357	200 cigars, blue, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove
015229★	RG-357	200 cigars, blue, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove
015238	RG-357	200 cigars, blue, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove
015288	RG-357	200 cigars, blue, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove
015293	RG-357	200 cigars, blue, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove
015300	RG-357	200 cigars, blue, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove
015322	RG-357	200 cigars, blue, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove
015345★	RG-357	200 cigars, blue, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove
015386	RG-357	200 cigars, blue, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove
015407	RG-357	200 cigars, blue, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove
015493★	RG-357	200 cigars, blue, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove

The imprint may say “Ottawa”, but the 4 mm. red control numbers indicate that the control numbering was done in Montreal.

File path is [c:\ CR - STAMPS \ RG_STAMPS \ 1883 \ Blue \ 200 cigars],
In MS Word 2007 for Windows 7,
Formatted for a HP CP 1525 Laser Jet,
October 14th 2013 - JBH